REMARKS

Applicants have canceled claims 1, 2, 9-11, 18-20, 27, 29 and 31 in accordance with the Board of Appeal decision affirming the final rejection of these claims.

Applicants respectfully present rewritten claims 3-6, 8, 12-15, 17, 21-24, 26, 28 and 30, in accordance with the agreement reached in the Examiner's interview of August 8, 2006 and pursuant to the decision of the Board of Appeals, in independent form and/or dependent claims depending from indicated allowable dependent claims when written in independent form.

Applicants respectfully submit that in view of these amendments, rewritten claims 3-6, 8, 12-15, 17, 21-24, 26, 28 and 30 are allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that in view of the above, a Notice of Allowance be issued at an early date with regard to the above recited claims as amended, in addition to previously allowed claims 32-34.

Respectfully submitted.

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